

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
401 F STREET NW SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX
www.cfa.gov

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

19 December 2002

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Approval of minutes: 21 November 2002
- B. Dates of next meetings: 16 January 2003
20 February 2003
20 March 2003
- C. Report on the Missouri State Quarter design.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

- A. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
 - 1. Old Georgetown Act
 - a. Appendix I.
 - 2. Shipstead-Luce Act
 - a. [S.L.03- 019](#), 555 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. The Freedom Forum. New mixed use building to house the Newseum. Concept. (Last seen 21 November 2002).
 - b. Appendix II.

B. District of Columbia Public Schools

[CFA 19/DEC/02- 1](#), Brightwood Elementary School. Nicholson and 13th streets, NW. Renovation and additions. Final. (Previous: CFA 19/SEP/02- 15).

C. District of Columbia Public Schools / U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

[CFA 19/DEC/02- 2](#), McKinley Technical Senior High School. 2nd and T streets, NE. Phase III, Egress stair and elevated walkway addition. Revised concept-new scheme. (Previous: CFA 21/NOV/02- 11).

D. Department of the Treasury / U.S. Mint

1. [CFA 19/DEC/02- 3](#), 2003 American Eagle Platinum Proof coin. Reverse design. (Previous: see CFA 19/OCT/00-4 for the 2001 and 2002 coins).
2. CFA 19/DEC/02- 4, Fifty States circulating/ commemorative quarter program for 2004. Design for the 27th state: Florida. (Previous: CFA 21/MAR/02-5). POSTPONED

E. General Services Administration

1. [CFA 19/DEC/02- 5](#), Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB), formerly the Old Executive Office Building (OEOB). 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Installation of bollards along the curb of 17th Street. Design.
2. [CFA 19/DEC/02- 6](#), J. Edgar Hoover Building (FBI). 935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Vestibule addition to the northeast lobby entrance. Design.

F. National Park Service

[CFA 19/DEC/02- 7](#), Lincoln Memorial. The Martin Luther King Jr., "I Have A Dream" speech commemorative plaque. Design. (Previous: CFA 19/SEP/02- 2).

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6 January 2003

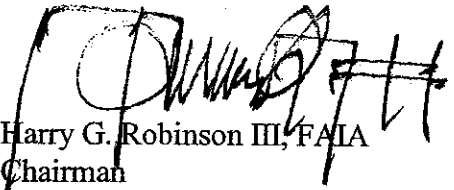
Dear Mr. Page:

During its meeting of 19 December, the Commission was pleased to review the concept for a new mixed-use building designed for the Newseum to be located at 555 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (Lot 826, Square 491/S.L. 03-019). While the Commission continues to support the dramatic statement of this innovative building, there are some critical issues that must be addressed because of the prominence of the location on our nation's "main street."

Although the Commission appreciates the proportions of this well-rendered building, the members expressed concern with the assertive quality of the third "bar" or layer, particularly in relation to the Canadian Chancery, but recognizes that it is in relative scale with the newly constructed buildings to the west of Sixth Street. Therefore, the overall massing of the building requires further study in order to maintain the appropriate relationships among all the elements in this precinct of Pennsylvania Avenue. Additionally, the First Amendment panel, the translucency of the facade and the quantity/quality of light emitted from the building continue to be of key interest to the Commission, requiring additional study as the project continues to progress. Finally, the existing proposal for the loading dock seems inappropriately wide, particularly with its relationship to the Canadian Embassy, and requires re-examination of its program functions.

The Commission looks forward to continued review of this project. As always, the staff is available should you, or the design team, have questions or need guidance.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III, FAIA
Chairman

Max Page
Deputy Director and Vice President
Newseum
The Freedom Forum World Center
1101 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209

cc: James Polshek, Polshek Partnership Architects
Edward M. Rogers, Nixon Peabody LLP
Judith H. Renfrew, CarrAmerica
Stephen J. Kuhn, CarrAmerica

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6 January 2003

Dear Ms. Woodhead:

During its meeting of 19 December, the Commission reviewed the design for the renovation and addition to Brightwood Elementary School at Nicholson and 13th streets, NW. While the new southeast corner entry and attached forecourt create a warm invitation to learning, the use of composite material on the northern classroom wall and the elimination of the skylights on the gymnasium in the proposed addition have a detrimental effect on the overall design. Therefore, every effort should be made to replace the composite material with glass and reinstate the skylights as part of the design. Additionally, there should be more differentiation, in color or pattern, between the brick of the existing and new structures. Finally, the landscape plan should include more vegetation, particularly along Missouri Avenue where vehicular traffic is a major intrusion in that precinct of the site.

The Commission looks forward to continued review of this project. As always, the staff is available should you, or the design team, require assistance.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III, FAIA
Chairman

Sarah J. Woodhead, AIA
Deputy Director of Facilities
District of Columbia Public Schools
Planning, Design and Construction
Penn Center
1709 3rd Street, NE, 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20002

cc: Denis Glen Kuhn, Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut & Kuhn Architects
Chao-Ming Wu, Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut & Kuhn Architects

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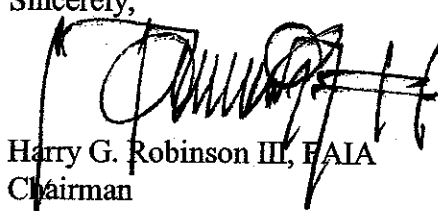
6 January 2003

Dear Mr. Block:

During its 19 December meeting, the Commission reviewed the revised concept for the addition of an egress stair and elevated walkway at the McKinley Technical Senior High School. The members were pleased with the revised scheme for the brick-faced egress stair and made the recommendation that the design for the elevated walkway be developed along the lines of Option 2 with the brick arch bridge, as shown during the presentation. While the low brick arch was preferable to the twin piers to support the bridge, the members suggested deleting the stone base for the arch supports. In addition, it was agreed that the enclosure on the bridge for the walkway should be as visually unencumbering and transparent as possible. Perhaps a structure such as a greenhouse could be the model for the walkway's enclosure.

When the revised drawings are ready, please submit them to the staff for our delegated approval. As always, the staff is available should you, or the design team, require guidance.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III, FAIA
Chairman

Stanley N. Block, P.E.
Chief, Design Management Branch
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, US Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

cc: Sarah Woodhead, DCPS
Antoine Plessy, US Army Corps of Engineers
Ernest Ulibarri, McKissack and McKissack

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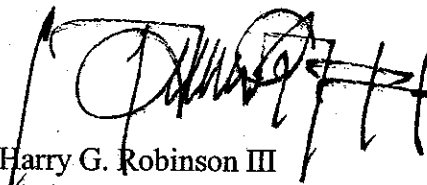
6 January 2003

Dear Mrs. Fore:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed five designs for the reverse of the 2003 American Eagle Platinum Proof Coin at its 19 December meeting. There was unanimous agreement that design #5, also labeled #1 on the most recent package sent to the members, was by far the best. It shows an eagle perched on a pine bough.

There was also unanimous agreement that the design would be improved by removing the line of mountainous rocks below the pine bough, and moving the eagle down slightly so that its head is not so close to the lettering above.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III
Chairman

The Honorable Henrietta Holsman Fore
Director, United States Mint
801 9th Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20220

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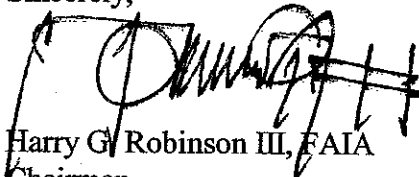
6 January 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 19 December, the Commission reviewed and approved the design for the installation of bollards along the curb of 17th Street on the west side of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. The Commission recommends, however, the addition of trees and other landscape elements which can simultaneously improve the pedestrian path and soften the presence of the security barriers.

The Commission looks forward to the review of security improvements for other federal properties throughout the District of Columbia. As always, the staff is available should you, or the design team, require assistance.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III, FAIA
Chairman

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
U.S. General Services Administration
Public Buildings Service, NCR
Portfolio Management Division
7th & D Streets, SW - Room 7600
Washington, DC 20407

cc: Bruce Rinik, GSA-White House Project Office

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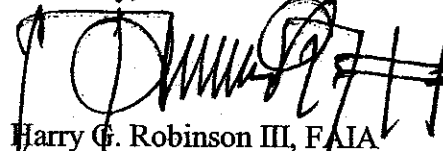
6 January 2003

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 19 December, the Commission reviewed and approved the design for the vestibule addition to the northeast lobby entrance of the J. Edgar Hoover Building at 935 Pennsylvania Avenue. The Commission recommends, however, that there be an east orientation for the exterior doors to avoid the prevailing western winds.

The Commission looks forward to the review of all exterior improvements for other federal properties throughout the District of Columbia. As always, the staff is available should you, or the design team, require assistance.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III, FAIA
Chairman

Michael McGill
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination
U.S. General Services Administration
Public Buildings Service, NCR
Portfolio Management Division
7th & D Streets, SW - Room 7600
Washington, DC 20407

cc: Rachel Chung, Sorg and Associates
Catherine Manville, GSA Project Manager

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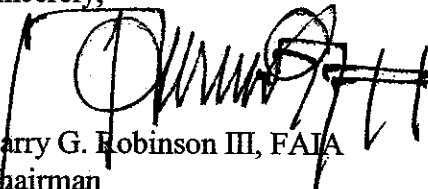
Dear Mr. Carlstrom:

At its meeting of 19 December, the Commission reviewed the design for the Martin Luther King Jr., *I Have a Dream* speech commemorative inscription for the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. The members suggested the height of the lettering for the inscription be increased in size, with the two-inch tall lettering enlarged to three inches and the smaller one inch lettering to two inches. This will not only improve the inscription's readability but make the text more compatible in scale with the inscriptions for Alaska and Hawaii statehood.

In addition, it was suggested that perhaps the applicable title(s) should be added to Dr. King's name. This addition should be carefully considered and vetted with experts knowledgeable to what his preferences would have been. During the presentation, a portion of the discussion focused on the appropriateness of highlighting the title of the speech with quotation marks. While not resolved in the meeting, subsequently it has been deemed unnecessary, considering the inscription of the title, *I Have A Dream*, will be rendered in larger letters, an acceptable form of emphasis.

We look forward to further review of this project. As always, the staff is available should you, or the project team, require additional guidance.

Sincerely,



Harry G. Robinson III, FAIA
Chairman

Terry R. Carlstrom
Regional Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

cc: John Parsons, NPS
Glenn De Marr